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PROGRAM TITLE **UNCLE SAM'S FOREST RANGERS #558**

ADVERTISER **SUSTAINING**

AGENCY

WRITER

DAY & DATE **THURSDAY NOVEMBER 11, 1943**

TIME **11:30 - 12:00 Noon CWT.**

**BLUE LOCAL**

## **PRODUCTION NOTES**

### **CHARACTERS**

**BESS** ----- HAZEL DOPHIEDE

**JERRY** ----- FRANK DANE

**JIM** ----- HARVEY HAYS

**JOHNNY** ----- DICK TURNER

### **CAST**

### **SOUND**

### **REMARKS**

**MASTER** Attached as broadcast:

This copy represents as accurately as possible the program. All alterations made in dramatic and/or musical content are contained herein.

Orchestra Leader

Production Director

Announcer

Agency Producer or Announcer

UNIQUE SAM'S FOREST FURNITURE 1998

SUSPENSION

SWING

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 11, 1998

BIRDS LOC'D

17:30 - 18:00 noon GMT

BLACKWOOD MOTEL

CARD

CHARGES

BEES - HAZEL DOBBIE

JERRY - FRANK DANE

JIM - HARVEY HAYS

JOHNNY - DICK TURNER

CHAMBERS

CHAMBERS

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ANNOUNCER: Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers!

MUSIC: Theme

ANNOUNCER: Secretary of Agriculture Wickard recently made this observation...."War," said Mr. Wickard, and I'm quoting ----"War is a good deal like soil erosion on a gigantic scale. The forces that cause war, like those that cause erosion, are always there, and the only way to keep them from getting a start and tearing things to pieces is by intelligent planning and everlasting work!....(end of quotation)....In a strong sense, this is also the philosophy of Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers. Their job is one of continual planning....continual work...for public good. The Forest Rangers are working with all their strength for the future that should bring everlasting peace. And they hope with all their heart, that their efforts will truly add to that peace....Now to the Pine Cone Ranger Station where we find Ranger Jim Robbins' wife, Bess, clearing up the dishes while young assistant Ranger Jerry Quick grabs a late bite of breakfast in the kitchen. Here they are....

FADE IN SOUNDS OF DISHWASHING, OCCASIONAL CLATTER OF SILVERWARE

JERRY: (KEEP SLIGHTLY OFF) I don't understand it.

Bess: You don't understand what, Jerry?

JERRY: Well, Jim said he and I were going to spend the day checking hunters on the Bull Creek area. Instead of that, he gets up real early and heads out of here all by himself. I don't get it.



1 BESS: Is your coffee hot enough, Jerry?

2 JERRY: (MOUTHFUL) Yes, thanks. I could eat a couple more of these  
3 hot cakes though, Mrs. Robbins...But about Jim. Where'd  
4 he go, anyway?

5 BESS: (SOLEMN) Don't you know what day this is, Jerry?

6 JERRY: Huh? Sure. It's Thursday, November 11th...Hey, November 11th

7 BESS: That's right. This is Armistice Day.

8 JERRY: Armistice Day, 1943. Gosh, I guess Jim didn't realize  
9 that when we first planned to work togather today.

10 BESS: HE realized it last night, after you'd gone to bed, Jerry.

11 JERRY: Yeah, I know Jim likes to get off in the forest by  
12 himself on a day like this...I guess that's because of  
13 David, isn't it Mrs. Robbins?

14 BESS: (VERY QUIETLY) Yes Jerry. Our boy David...he helped  
15 make the first Armistice Day possible, but he didn't live  
16 to see it himself.

17 JERRY: I'm sorry Mrs. Robbins...I shoulda had more sense than to....

18 BESS: It's all right, Jerry...Jim said to tell you to just go  
19 ahead by yourself. He said you could handle it alone for  
20 today.

21 JERRY: Sure. Of course...Jim rates a day off by himself once a  
22 year anyway.

23 BESS: He won't be by himself, Jerry. Not today....

24 JERRY: Huh?

25 BESS: Remember Johnny Roberts, Jerry?

26 JERRY: Johnny? Oh yea, that kid from Beaver Creek. Jim's taking  
27 Johnny out into the woods with him today?



1 BESS: Not exactly, Jerry. Jim's gone over to Beaver Creek. He  
2 plans to spend the day there in Beaver Creek with little  
3 Johnny.

4 JERRY: Going to spend the whole day in that old God-forsaken cut-over  
5 area? Gosh, if he feels low, all that barren cut-over'll  
6 make it worse....What's he and Johnny gonna do all day?

7 BESS: You have forgotten, Jerry....Jim's going to help Johnny  
8 plant trees.

9 JERRY: Say! Of course! Jim promised little Johnny he'd do just  
10 that...help him set out some trees now as a starter for  
11 the big tree planting program we hope to have in Beaver  
12 Creek after the war.

13 BESS: Yes, Jerry. Jim said last night that he thought it'd be  
14 a good idea to do that with Johnny today because...well,  
15 Jim said Armistice Day this year ought to be one of resolve  
16 and not a day of recollection alone.

17 JERRY: A day of resolve...And action, and a look ahead, huh? I  
18 guess setting out those trees in Beaver Creek oughta  
19 cover it, all right. And...wait a minute...this youngster  
20 Johnny. His Dad's in the Army and overseas to boot, isn't  
21 he? Say, you don't think that's another reason for Jim  
22 wanting to be with the kid, do you?

23 BESS: IT could be Jerry. But something else occurred to me...

24 JERRY: What's that Mrs. Robbins?

25 BESS: Well, I think maybe that for today at least, a little boy  
named Johnny may help to fill the place of a little boy  
named David in (FADE) a father's aching heart.....

PAUSE:



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JOHNNY: (FADE IN) That's the second time you've don that, Mr. Robbins. The second time you've called me David.

JIM: I...I didn't realize it, Johnny.

JOHNNY: Eh, that's all right, sir. I don't mind

JIM: I'm glad, Johnny....Well, son, we 've got this last tree to plant. The sun will be going down in a few minutes.

JOHNNY: Gee, just one more. Can I plant it, all by myself?

JIM: Sure, Go to it. Here's the shovel.

JOHNNY: This is a good place, isn't it? Near this big old stump?

JIM: DON't set it too close, Johnny. We want to give the roots a chance, you know.

JOHNNY: How about here, Mister Robbins?

JIM: That's good. It'll be in line with the other trees in this row....All right, dig the hole.

JOHNNY: Right...(SOUND OF DIGGING) Gee, this has been a swell day, Mister Robbins.

JIM: So it has, son, so it has.

#### DIGGING OUT

JOHNNY: That ought to be deep enough. Now, for Mister tree. In you go, Mister tree....

JIM: Not too deep, Johnny.

JOHNNY: I know. We gotta keep the root collar right even with the top of the ground. (SCRAPING) A little dirt under the roots, and, there, now I can fill it in, can't I?



1 JIM: That's fine, son. You've got those roots all spread out  
2 dandy. Fill 'er in.

3 SOUND OF SCRAPING

4 JOHNNY: There, that does it. Now, I'll pack it down good....There!  
5 Now, a little tug at the tree....See, Mister Robbins, it's  
6 good and solid, isn't it?

7 JIM: Couldn't be better, son.

8 JOHNNY: Gee, the last tree.

9 JIM: (MUSING) That's just the way he said it...David...so many  
10 years ago. "Gee, the last tree, Dad!"

11 (SLIGHT PAUSE)

12 JOHNNY: Mister Robbins

13 JIM: Huh? Oh..Yes, Johnny?

14 JOHNNY: Who was David, Mister Robbins? Some little boy like me,  
15 that you knew once?

16 JIM: Yes, Johnny. A little boy a lot like you...Wanta sit here  
17 on this stump with me a minute, Johnny? The sun's not quite  
18 down yet...And if you like, I'll tell you a little  
19 about David.

20 JOHNNY: Oh, I'd like that, sir. I'll sit here.

21 JIM: Good....Comfortable?

22 JOHNNY: Yes sir. Now about David, Mister Robbins.

23 JIM: David was my little boy, Johnny...My son.

24 JOHNNY: I didn't know that, Mister Robbins. He doesn't live with  
25 you at the Ranger Station now, does he?



1 JIM: No.

2 JOHNNY: But he did when he was little, didn't he?

3 1 JIM: Yes.

4 2 JOHNNY: Gee, he musta had a lot of fun. Going out in the woods  
3 with you and planting trees and...Did he help you plant  
4 trees, Mister Robbins?

5 5 JIM: Yes, Johnny. We planted a lot of trees together.  
6 Often, just the two of us, like you and me today.

7 7 JOHNNY: OH. Now I know why you called me David every once in a  
8 while. You forgot, and really thought I was David,  
9 didn't you?

10 10 JIM: Maybe it was that I remembered, once again, that David and  
11 I did these things together.

12 12 JOHNNY: Where's David now, Mister Robbins?

13 13 JIM: That's what I want to tell you, Johnny. And maybe, in  
14 telling you, you'll be able to understand a little better  
15 about the war and the importance of planting trees in  
16 Beaver Creek and all.....I guess that doesn't make sense  
17 right now, but maybe it will in a minute, son.

18 18 JOHNNY: Uh Huh.

19 19 JIM: David was a soldier in the first world war. It was before  
20 you were born, Johnny. We all hoped back then that it would  
21 be the last war we'd have. But it didn't work out that  
22 way, son.

23 23 JOHNNY: I know Because there's a war now, isn't there? And my Daddy's  
24 a soldier now.

25



1 JIM: The job wasn't completely done then, as we'd hoped,  
2 Johnny. The sore spots weren't all cleaned up, didn't  
3 heal in the right way. There were too many places...  
4 like Beaver Creek, Johnny.....too many places left  
5 without care and attention and the sickness of the  
6 land stayed with the people and the pain of both the  
7 land and the people helped to create another war, this  
8 war.

9 JOHNNY: I don't understand, Mr. Robbins. You said Beaver Creek  
10 was like those other places?

11 JIM: Yes, in a way. All over the world, Johnny, where there  
12 are places like Beaver Creek that have been foolishly  
13 abused, where resources both physical or spiritual have  
14 been misused or neglected, there you'll find the starting  
15 place for dissatisfaction, unhappiness, a poor brand of  
16 living. Those are the places that have got to be cleaned  
17 up. I reckon this is kinda over you head, huh, son?

18 JOHNNY: Well, some of it, Mister Robbins. I know something though.

19 JIM: YES?

20 JOHNNY: It'd be lots more fun to have a lotta trees growing here  
21 around Beaver Creek again, instead of all these old rotten  
22 stumps. And it'd sure make it easier for Mom to keep  
23 the house clean and for me to get stove wood and...Oh,  
24 a lot of things like that. Is that what you mean, Mister Robbins?



1 JIM: Yes, Johnny. It's as simple as that. I reckon Beaver  
2 Creek is only a wee small place compared to other sick  
3 places in the world; but today, son, you and I have  
4 made a start in healing up the soreness and devastation  
5 that's in this Beaver Creek land. We've made a start,  
6 planting a few trees, to restore a spot of land and  
7 a way of life that my boy David gave his life fighting  
8 for, years ago....

9 JOHNNY: And that my Daddy is fighting for now?

10 JIM: Yes, Johnny....

11 JOHNNY: I was thinking about Daddy. Gee, he'll be proud then  
12 that we planted these trees, won't he? And maybe  
13 he'll help me plant some more trees when the war is  
14 over and he comes back home....I pray for Daddy every  
15 night, Mister Robbins.

16 JIM: Good boy, Johnny...If my plans and your prayers work  
17 out, son, your Daddy and you will sure enough be  
18 planting trees together here in Beaver Creek, after  
19 the war.

20 JOHNNY: Gee, you mean Daddy could have a regular job planting  
21 trees right here at home?

22 JIM: We hope that's the way it will be, Johnny. That's  
23 what we're working for any way.

24 JOHNNY: Gosh, Mom will be proud to know that, Mister Robbins..  
25 ....And, Mister Robbins?



1 JIM: Yes, son?

2 JOHNNY: I'm awful sorry about David....

3 JIM: Bless your heart, youngster....But don't be....I feel

4 pretty good about it all now. Working with you today,

5 and talking to you, Johnny, has helped more than

6 you'll ever know. Well, the day is about done....

7 JOHNNY: Day is done....Say, that's the name of a poem our

8 school teacher taught us last week, Mister Robbins....

9 It's called Taps.

10 JIM: Taps. Yes, of course..will you....will you recite

11 it for me, Johnny?

12 JOHNNY: Sure...I'll stand up here, on this old stump...

13 JIM: That 's right....And I'll look back over those rows of

14 little trees we planted today, Johnny. Go agead, son.

15 JOHNNY: (RECITING) Day is done; gone the sun...from the lakes,

16 from the hills, from the sky...All is well, safely

17 rest....God is nigh,...

18 JIM: (SLOWLY) All is well...safely rest....God is nigh....

19 MUSICAL FINALE

20 ANNOUNCER: Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers comes to you each week

21 during the National Farm and Home Hour as a network

22 presentation with the cooperation of the Forest Service,

23 United States Department of Agriculture.....

24

25

JJ - 9:55  
11/9/43

